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FREE

Crewkerne
WEEKENDER

March 25 2011 Issue 26

Crewkerne's honoured citizens

Page 3

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weekender announcements

HARRY LANGDON

Happy Birthday

Love Gran and Grandad

Ethel Hutchings

Wishing you a very Happy 94th Birthday Cheers, from Pat

Happy 16th Birthday Rhea Webb for yesterday. Love you always, Mum, Shane, Jamie, Bailey xxx

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Please include s.a.e. for the return of photos. Please note: Free Family Announcements can only be entered by the above form, we do not accept photocopies or entries by telephone, fax, text or email.

ALL FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE IN 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY FOR THE FRIDAY PUBLICATION

weekender weather

Friday 25th Mar	Saturday 26th Mar	Sunday 27th Mar	Monday 28th Mar
Partly Cloudy High 16° Low 4°	Partly Cloudy High 13° Low 2°	Partly Cloudy High 11° Low 2°	Mostly Sunny High 12° Low 3°

Tuesday 29th Mar	Wednesday 30th Mar	Thursday 31st Mar
Cloudy High 11° Low 5°	Light Rain High 11° Low 6°	Mostly Cloudy High 12° Low 7°

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The WEEKENDER

Your Weekend Starts Here.....

Website of the week

www.chardmuseum.co.uk

CHARD Museum was set up in 1970, and is managed by a group of Trustees who, like all the workers involved with the Museum, are unpaid volunteers.

First registered under the Museums and Galleries Registration Scheme in 1990, it was awarded full Accreditation in April, 2006, one of the first volunteer-run museums in the South West to receive this recognition.

The Museum and Heritage Centre exhibitions have been expanded and improved steadily over the years and contain several collections of national importance including those of John Stringfellow (1799-1883), an early pioneer of powered flight, and James Gillingham (1839-1924) who was an important maker of artificial limbs.

The main new displays in 2011 feature Chard Carnival and Chard Brass. The carnival costumes have been used over a period of 35 years on several local circuits on both floats and by walking entries. They have become more impressive and elaborate in that time. The display is by courtesy of Doreen Toms.

The Chard Museum and Heritage Centre re-opens from Monday, April 18th April 2011, and will remain open until Saturday, October 29th 2011. It is open from 10.30 to 4.30, Monday to Friday and from 10.30 to 1.00 on Saturday. Admission is £3 for adults with free entry for accompanied children.

Women delighted to be honoured by town

ABSENT HONOUR: The Mayor of Crewkerne Councillor Neil Sturtivant presents honoured citizen awards to Sarah Elliott on behalf of her mother Wendy and Eileen Mills

By Marion Draper

THIS year's Honoured Citizens of Crewkerne, announced at the 10th annual town meeting, are Eileen Mills and Wendy Elliott

Wendy Elliott "Aunty Wendy" retired from the Busy Bees Methodist Preschool in July last year after many years of service where she was loved by the children and respected by staff and parents alike.

She is a vital member of the Crewkerne United Dramatic and Operatic Society working hard behind the scenes, as she did for the Crewkerne Players and Crewkerne Amateur Operatic Society beforehand, fundraising and organising their participation in community events such as the Christmas lighting up.

Mrs Elliott was on holiday and her daughter Sarah proudly stepped in to accept the award on her behalf from the mayor, councillor Neil Sturtivant.

She said: "Mum's really upset not to be here tonight but she said she will raise a glass to celebrate this evening. She said thank you so much, she feels very honoured as you know she does many things for the town and her love of CUDOS is special but she feels she doesn't deserve this whatsoever and that there are far more people in the town who deeply deserve it and that just sums my mum up really, so thank you very much, I know she's absolutely thrilled."

Eileen Mills came to Crewkerne with her husband Terry in 1997, having chosen it as the town to open their shop Prelude Sports due to the friendliness of the residents.

Unfortunately her husband died six weeks later but undeterred she continued with her son-in-law Drew. Eileen worked as a reception co-ordinator at the Aqua centre until 2000, working long hours, then after a brief world tour, came back to work with the elderly whilst still running the shop. She has been an active member of the chamber of trade including a stint as chairman, involved in the junior triathlon since its inception, a committee member of West One and the Henhayes Centre as well as helping out at the Octagon theatre in Yeovil and Montacute House.

Eileen said: "I am very honoured to be given this award. Crewkerne made me feel really welcome when we first moved into the town. I would like to thank all the people who have supported and worked with me in all the activities I have been involved in and I have made many new friends, thank you."

Crewkernenews

Recycling decision

CRUNCH time comes for Crewkerne recycling centre this week as the final decision on closure is made today, Friday March 25th by Somerset Waste Board.

A lifeline was thrown when it was announced the centre could remain open with reduced hours and a fee of £2.50 which was discussed at an emergency meeting of Crewkerne Town Council last night.

Nick Cater from Somerset Waste Partnership said they had to make sure they changes in legal status were possible before the proposal could be put forward.

If they vote to go ahead it will be on a trial basis to see if the usage remains high enough, or the site would still have to close.

Sat nav stolen

A WHITE Vauxhall Combo van was broken into at Ham Hill Country Park between 12pm and 1pm on Sunday, March 20th. It was parked near to the entrance to The Prince of Wales public house.

Between those times, somebody smashed the passenger window, and stole the sat nav from the windscreen. If you saw anything suspicious please call the police on 0845 456 7000.

School fundraising

ASHLANDS First School in Crewkerne has lost the chance for some funding they were expecting, due to cutbacks and will now have to raise their own money to refurbish an outside play area.

The Friends of Ashlands will be holding series of fundraising activities this year to make up the shortfall, starting with an Easter Bingo on Thursday, March 31st, doors 6.30pm for eyes down at 7pm.

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Golden day for Crewkerne cadet

By Marion Draper

CADET Colour Sergeant Major Jonathan Crease from Crewkerne Platoon, Somerset Cadet Battalion (The Rifles) was one of hundreds of young achievers who attended St James' Palace to receive his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

Jonathan said it was not quite what he expected with 400 people there but Prince Philip was present and spoke to them in groups.

Jonathan is no stranger now to Royal visits having attended the Royal Review and Garden Party at Buckingham Palace last July for the Cadet 150 year celebrations when he was invited as a member of the county shooting team.

He had worked tirelessly through the five sections of his D of E programme over a number of months to achieve the award which he took through the Army Cadet Force.

Diverse activities have to be completed to pass the award, which included: Service - developing instructional and leadership skills in order to aid in the voluntary teaching of young army cadets in first aid; field crafts;, map and compass; target shooting and drill.

Skills - in target shooting and drill, including firing the 7.62 target rifle in various competitions, as well as attending a week-long coaching course.

Physical recreation - playing hockey for Chard Hockey club, improving both hockey skills and personal fitness.

Expedition - this was one of the toughest parts Jonathan said, because they did an 82K trek over the Los Pecos mountains of Spain in the hot summer weather, carrying everything they needed for four days including food and water, tent, sleeping bag and survival equipment.

He also took part in a residential project, a week long course with other young men and women from all over Somerset, further developing instructional skills.

Jonathanís citation stated that throughout the D of E, he was able to prove himself a great team leader as well as a team member, always encouraging people to do the best they could. His Gold Award helped him to gain an apprenticeship in engineering at AgustaWestland. He is currently completing his first year at Yeovil College and intends to become an adult instructor with the ACF.

■ HIGH ACHIEVER: Jonathan Crease with his Gold Duke of Edinburgh certificate

New look for Baptist church

■ LIGHTER AND BRIGHTER: Some first floor pews have gone to make way for a built in office

THE DOOR is open is the message from Crewkerne and Misterton Baptist Church which officially reopened its church in North Street with a coffee morning last Saturday.

They hope the makeover of the building which has been made much brighter will encourage some new additions to their congregation.

The biggest change to the church, which was built in 1830 and extended in 1880, has been the removal of all the ground floor pews which have been replaced by purple covered chairs on a carpeted area, enabling a more flexible use of space.

On the first floor the balcony has had a safety rail added and one area of pews removed to create a built in office for the Pastor, the Reverend Peter Woolway, to prepare his sermons and talk to people one to one. Some of the wooden panels were replaced by glass and all the dark panelling painted in light neutral colours to give the whole area a lighter appearance.

A huge amount of insulation was put into the roof as part of the refurbishment and the balcony clock was cleaned and now chimes on the hour.

Visitors to the open morning were able to view historical documents and photos of church life over the last 100 years. Comments on the changes were positive, with the congregation appreciating the flexibility of the new arrangement.

As with the parish church, the Baptist organ has fallen into expensive disrepair and has faded out of use in favour of an electric one but the decorative pipes remain until such time as the tens of thousands of pounds needed can be found.

Meanwhile they have started an appeal to raise £5,500 towards the new seating, amplification system and refurbished noticeboard.

The Reverend Woolway said the temporary use of the Speedwell Hall for their worship had been a very beneficial experience and they were very grateful to have been able to use it.

He added that many people in the town still didn't seem to know of the existence of the church even though they walked past every day and he hoped the new area would allow more activities, such as concerts, to bring more of the community in.

A thanksgiving and re-dedication service for the church will be held on Saturday, April 3rd at 6pm, all are welcome.

In harmony with the troops

■ HARMONY Health and Beauty salon in Crewkerne handed over a cheque for £569.07 to Help for Heroes area fundraiser, Richard Lupton. The money raised at a fundraising open day last November when various specialist practitioners all provided taster treatments for a nominal £10 a session and held a raffle. Vicki Jupp, Julie Swatton and Karen Calvert are pictured with Mr Lupton.

■ ALL TOGETHER: The CHICS orchestra opened the concert at Maiden Beech

School packed for wide ranging music concert

By Marion Draper

MAIDEN Beech Middle School, in Crewkerne, hosted a concert organised by CHICS Music for primary aged children.

The combined CHICS orchestra opened the concert, having only got together for a rehearsal three hours before. It included pupils from Maiden Beech and Wadham, who had attended an Orchestra Day in February organised by CHICS Music where they played together for the first time. There were children from 10 different schools, ranging in ability and age.

CHICS Music is a service run by and for schools which is non-profit making and financially independent of the local authority. The service provides extra-curricular music lessons for individuals and small groups in a wide range of instruments and singing. It gives children with similar interests a chance to mix with other schools and make new friends, while building confidence through performance.

There were 12 primary and first schools involved, covering the Crewkerne and Yeovil area, some bringing along their own groups to perform with others being involved in ensemble pieces. With so many schools involved, the number of families coming to watch overwhelmed the school hall creating standing room only and delaying the start of the 50-minute programme.

Headteacher Steve Smith welcomed everyone, and said the situation would have to be looked into for next time. He said how impressive it was to see so many children with such a large age range and from grade nothing to seven, working together.

The concert included choirs and percussion instruments, a guitar group which brought together pupils from various schools, all who have tuition through CHICS Music as well as the orchestra of string and wind instruments, directed by Barbara Dale. All the choir groups joined together to perform a finale piece, the Scoo Be Doo Song.

Schools involved were: Preston Primary School, Haselbury First School, Martock Primary School, Maiden Beech Middle School, South Petherton Junior School, Ash Primary School, Norton-Sub-Hamdon Primary School, Ilchester Junior School, Milford Junior School, Ashland's First School, St Bartholomew's First School and Misterton First School.

■ WIMA WE: Haselbury First School Percussion Group

■ DRUNKEN SAILOR: Martock Primary Choir gave a medley of sea shanties

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RED NOSE DAY

We did something funny for money!

MANOR Court School in Chard, really went to town for Comic Relief Red Nose Day after the school council took the decision they wanted to have a day of activities, doing things they would not normally do.

Most of the pupils and some of the staff dressed creatively for the day and together they raised £239.13 for good causes.

Key Stage one and two had a cinema day, complete with popcorn which made the rest of the school smell very tasty. Years 3 and 4 made photo frames and decorated cupcakes with a Red Nose Day theme.

Older pupils took part in a crazy construction day making miniature gift boxes from card. Some knitted up a storm with their fingers and the last group were put together a performance called Glee hee hee, to show the rest of the school later.

Everyone had a great day in their chosen activity and raised lots of money for Comic Relief.

■ CONSTRUCTION MAYHEM: Zany goings on for more year five and six

■ A DAY AT THE CINEMA: Movies and popcorn for Manor Court

■ CHILDREN from Buckland St Mary C of E VA Primary School wore something funny for money on Friday raising £64.87. Lots of children wore their pyjamas but there were also some great costumes. Ben Fenton, aged ten, swapped roles with his twin sister dressing as a young lady for the day, much to the hilarity of his friends and teachers.

WINSHAM Primary School also took part in Comic Relief Day by doing something funny for money.

All the pupils dressed in "wacky" clothes and there was a talent show where the pupils performed stand-up comic acts, comedy puppet shows and dances to which parents were invited.

During the morning preschool children joined the main school.

A total of £40 was raised for Comic Relief Mrs Jeanette Shaw also opened the school's newly refurbished library, showcasing the new people puppets for the pupils to talk about their emotions, and a new lending system enabling parents and pupils of Winsham School community to borrow books.

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■ SEEING RED: Swanmead staff and pupils

GREENFYLDE School and the Sunny Ile pre-school in Ilminster totalled a massive £896.84 for Comic Relief by paying their pieces of eight to be pirates for the day or just not wear their uniforms.

They sold red noses and cakes and a couple of children teamed up with older siblings at Swanmead and took part in a sponsored run as well.

The schoolchildren had a great time on the day, taking turns to play on a bouncy castle brought into the school hall as the weather was wet. One class had a special pirate cupcake each, made by Jacy's Grandma Sue and there was even one for headteacher John Jeffery, much to his delight.

The playschool children were mostly pirates too, the theme having been suggested by Comic Relief this year, with skull and crossbones on some of the red noses on sale.

They had a pirate ship battle in progress on the floor and enjoyed a hearty "aarr" for their photograph.

Swanmead also paid up to be pirates and non-uniformed for the day, many dressing in red or wearing Comic Relief tee shirts. Even the caterers got in the spirit with red nose pinnies. Together they raised £189.50 altogether.

■ BOUNCY PIRATES: Head teacher John Jeffery with some of the Greenfylde pirates

■ ALL MINE: Headteacher John Jeffery presented with his special cake by Jacy, which was made by her grandma Sue

Photos by MARION DRAPER

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■ RED HONKER: Snowdon House resident Rita Lifton

STAFF and residents at Snowdon House Extra Care Scheme in Chard, came together to raise £162 for Comic Relief.

They held a competition for the best decorated red nose, with one resident even adorning her walking frame with them. Winner, Rita Lifton received a small prize for her brilliant effort, and proudly took a lap of honour to display her "red honker" around the communal lounge.

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Community lunches on the menu at Combe

■ GOOD IDEA: Headteacher Lesley Katner dines with the guests to gauge opinion

By Marion Draper

CHILDREN at Combe St Nicholas Church of England Primary School enjoyed a unique experience as they served lunches to older members of their community who came in to their school last week.

This was the second time the lunch had been offered as a free pilot scheme to test the water and see if over 60 residents of the village would like to come to the school once a month and pay £3 for a two-course meal with a hot drink, provided by Millennium Catering and sit down with the children, to make them more involved with the school.

The scheme was the brainchild of headteacher Lesley Katner, who thought it would be a good way to make members of the community, who do not have family members at the school, feel involved with it and perhaps come in occasionally to help with reading or attend events. For the first two sessions, which were free, they had around 30 sitting down for lunch and some of the children served them. The future plan is to welcome about ten at a time to sit with some of the children to encourage cross generational conversation.

The girls helping at the second session said they enjoyed waiting on tables and one even said she thought she would like to be a waitress one day.

It was a good lesson in patience for them as they had to wait until everyone on the table had finished before they cleared their plates. Then all the diners were given a feedback sheet so the school could assess whether it could become a regular thing. Everyone seemed to think it was a good idea and many left a donation to be split between the school and Comic Relief.

As it was Red Nose day, the rest of the school came across for an assembly in the next room and the double doors were opened so they could sing the Red Nose day song to the adults.

■ SERVICE WITH A SMILE: Combe St Nicholas Primary School pupils serve lunch to the over 60s

■ RED NOSE SONG: The children sang to the diners after lunch

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WEEKENDER

CYBER CAFE AS a result of a request from the school council, Stanchester Community School has created a cyber café in which their Year 11 students can access the internet and socialise during break and lunch periods.
Headteacher Judy McBlain cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony that was attended by members of the governing body and special guests.

EASTER EGGS: ILMINSTER and District Lions club have just started their first major fundraising event of 2011 with their ever popular Easter egg draw.
Eggs can be found at: The Royal Oak, Ilminster; The Windwhistle Inn; The George Inn, Donyatt; The Five Dials, Horton; The Rose and Crown, East Lambrook; The Kings Head, Chard; The New Inn, Dowlish Wake; The Stonemasons, Ilminster; Bonners, Ilminster; Focus, Chard and Beaminster School. It costs 50p to have a go and as ever the funds raised will go to Lions supported charities.
Ilminster Lion David Searle is pictured with their fundraising eggs.

New WATCH group formed in Chard

By Marion Draper

CHARD Intentional Peer Support Group (CIPS) which was formed over three years ago has grown to a point where they have gained additional funding to link up with other disadvantaged groups in the area.

CIPS was formed to enable adults suffering with depression and mental health issues to meet others in an atmosphere of social interaction, to share their experiences and support each other and reintegrate into the community. The group has now formed WATCH, Working Altogether in Chard to involve anyone in the surrounding area who feels excluded, isolated or disadvantaged in any way.

They meet every Thursday in Chard Young People's Centre in Essex Close, providing a social inclusion centre where people are welcomed and can join in activities together, share their interests and make friends.

WATCH aims to draw on the experience gained from CIPS to reach out and engage with adults with physical disabilities, the homeless, recovering alcoholics and substance abusers, lone parents, ethnic minority groups as well as mental health service users. They also supply a base where professionals can help with advice on benefits, healthier lifestyles and guidance on a range of topics through talks and discussions.

The group has started work on a mosaic with the help of Crewkerne sculptor Richard Langford which will be placed in the youth centre. It will represent their growth and step into the world, with a rainbow rising from a pair of hands. This was made possible by the Somerset County Council cultural and creative economy unit, funded through the seed funding grant scheme. Funding also came from Neighbourhood Learning and Deprived Communities which is administered by Somerset Skills and Learning. Their representative Malcolm Tipper commented: "Here we have an essential service being provided entirely by volunteers with some support from professionals, it is vital that funders continue to support projects like this, so lives can be turned around."

Volunteer group coordinator Julie Matthews is pleased with the progress already made. She said: "We have come from being our own separate little group to something that is more a part of the community and we want to link up with more community groups to create better integration and sharing of resources. It's really brilliant; already we have a recovering addict, who really wants to get off his methadone and do training. He is here working on the computer with one of our older members who has become like a father figure to him. We have an art student here, giving some time too. People are talking and doing activities, it's like stepping stones, they come and get better then they leave us.

"We want to link in with other groups and have an office space here that could be shared with someone else to save on costs. Also the town council are letting us do up some workshops at the back of the building so we can use them to make things. B& Q have a policy where they give away damaged wood and pots of paint to community groups so we can make things to sell like bird boxes, and help fund ourselves. We already have two volunteer carpenters and we need more volunteers who are prepared to share their community skills with the group.We need someone who will come regularly and cook with them so we can provide a dinner every week, at the moment it's a bit hit and miss.

"We have been extremely lucky with this project, to be so well supported by local organisations and funders, such as Chard Town Council, Primary Care Trust NHS, Somerset Skills and Learning, South Somerset Mind, South Somerset Voluntary and Community Action and Somerset Community Foundation Grass Roots Funding. We really hope that the new project will benefit people who are isolated and need a new base to make new friendships that are rewarding."

If you are involved with a community project or would like to know more about WATCH please call Julie on 07506238540.

CREATING THEIR FUTURE: Members of the Chard WATCH group start work on the mosaic design shown to the right

Advertisers Announcement

CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP VACANCIES

Train4All have apprenticeships available for our Chard, Glastonbury and Yeovil centres for new 1st years and any 2nd or 3rd years wishing to transfer to us from other providers in order to train more locally. We have employers already waiting to recruit fully funded apprentices so if you are thinking about joining a Construction Apprenticeship Programme and are aged between 16-19 years we have vacancies available for **BRICK, PLASTER, CARPENTRY, or TILING** courses. We also have partial funding for those apprentices aged 19+. Alternatively, if you are already employed but would like to gain a recognised **CITY & GUILDS** qualification in your trade area, please contact us. We will be holding enrolment days in the near future, but if you would like to arrange an immediate interview date and time, please call us on 01460 261179 or contact us via our website.

Spring celebration of art

By Marion Draper

THE WINNER of the second annual Branston Art Award in the Ilminster Meeting House Arts centre spring exhibition was Kay Lewis-Bell from South Brewham, who scooped a £500 cash prize.

Local potato company, Branston Ltd, sponsor the award at the Ilminster Arts Centre to celebrate the work of established and emerging artists living and working in the south west area.

At a ceremony last Sunday Branston's south west site general manager Ian Wait handed over the prize to Kay, who won for her oil and mixed media painting "Conversation 2".

■ CYLE OF LIFE: Kilmington artist Barbara Whiteley won best 3D piece

He said: "We are absolutely delighted to support this event once again - and, indeed, in future years. The Arts Centre in Ilminster is a fantastic facility and we are very keen to support local art and our region's talented artists.

More than 120 art works were selected from 95 regional artists and are currently being exhibited in the prestigious Spring Open Art Exhibition at Ilminster Arts Centre until April 16th.

Kay studied fine art painting in Bath Spa School of Art. She works mainly from her studio at Shave Farm, South Brewham as a figurative painter.

Not only did "Conversation 2" catch the eyes of the panel of judges, who had to decide which established or emerging artist exhibited the most outstanding piece of art, but Kay's work is also proving popular with visitors to the centre who are able to vote for their favourite piece during the course of the open exhibition.

Artist and co-organiser of the spring exhibition Diane Burnell, said: "The standard of entries is particularly high this year and the judges were hard-pushed to make a final decision. The resulting exhibition is first class and a tribute to the talent that exists in the south west."

As well as the £500 prize for the best overall work, there were separate prizes of a four week exhibition at Ilminster Arts Centre in 2012 for best mixed media 2D work, which was awarded to Dorset artist Lynda Connolly for her watercolour/egg tempura piece "Labour in Vain (Chesil Beach Bio Field)". Kilmington artist Barbara Whiteley was awarded the best 3D prize for her "Cycle of Life" wedding cake of wish bones representing a celebration of the rhythm and cycle of life inspired by the Sedlec Ossuary in Prague, where human bones were made into works of art. Best print was awarded to Pauline Lerry from Bridgwater for her "Winter Landscape" mono print. The visitors' choice artist will be announced at the end of the exhibition.

Highly commended went to the Landlord of the Green Dragon in Combe St Nicholas, Trevor Salway-Roberts for his magnificent wooden sculptures carved from oak and based on a theme of religious imagery and nature. Sara Loveridge who works part time at the gallery also received highly commended for her mixed media pictures inspired by her work on bus surveys.

■ BRANSTON PRIZE WINNER: Kay Lewis-Bell

■ HIGHLY COMMENDED: Trevor Salway-Roberts from Combe St Nicholas

■ OPEN SHOW WINNERS: Ian Wait general manager of Branston with the winners of the Ilminster Meeting House Arts Centre Spring Open Exhibition

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Advertisers Announcement

Businesses risk ignoring HMRC changes at their peril

Over the past couple of years HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) have made some significant changes to the way businesses need to complete and file their records and annual returns. Businesses that fail to adhere to these changes are likely to face fines or other penalties which HMRC now have the power to enforce.

Whilst some may perceive this as making businesses become more efficient, for many organisations it has substantially increased the amount of admin required to run the business on a daily basis.

Some of the recent changes include:

- Many employers having to submit their end of year payroll returns online. Employers that continue to file paper returns may be fined.
- From 6 April 2011, it will be compulsory for employers to submit their "in year forms" online (i.e. P45 Part 1 for leavers, P45 Part 3 for joiners, and P46 forms etc).
- Businesses with a turnover of more than £100,000 per annum, now have to file their VAT returns online and it is likely that HMRC will extend this to all VAT registered businesses in the future.
- Incurring fines or penalties for submitting late or incorrect records. Some individuals may have already experienced this if they failed to submit their self assessment tax returns by 31 January this year.

The ever-changing regulations put even more pressure on business owners and individuals, at a time when the economy is causing a concern for many. Furthermore, businesses who fail to adhere to any changes made by HMRC could find themselves at the receiving end of a tax investigation, which can cost a lot of time and money unless they have appropriate fees protection insurance.

Now, more than ever before, it is imperative that business owners and managers pay close attention to the regulatory aspects involved with running their businesses. Accounts and payroll staff should be fully trained and aware of these changes, making sure the business adheres to all the changes and the relevant deadlines where appropriate. Many business owners and managers have already chosen to outsource this aspect of their accounts function and this trend is likely to continue as more and more businesses feel the pressure of increasing admin and the burden of more red tape.

If you are concerned about HMRC's changes and how they will affect your business or personal tax matters, local accountancy practice, Chalmers & Co, can guide you through the never ending maze of tax regulations and legislation. For more information, or to arrange a free initial meeting, call Chalmers & Co on 01935 476499 or 01460 279000.

Alternatively for more information about HMRC changes, as well as information about the 2011 budget, visit their website at www.chalmersaccountants.co.uk.

weekenderpeople

Phenomenal fundrasing!

■ **HUGE EFFORT: Sue Stiff, Richard Lupton,Tom Strutt and Sam Curtis**

AN OPEN weekend held at Crewkerne Conservative club to raise money for Help For Heroes was a tremendous success, coining in a total of £1,150 for the charity.

The money was raised from a table top sale, tombola, auction and raffle on the Saturday and dog racing and a tea dance on the Sunday.

Committee member and ex-serviceman Tom Strutt said they had been very keen to support the cause. Fellow member Sam Curtis said: "The troops do a very hard job and need our appreciation and respect. They need to understand that the people of Britain are behind them."

Area fundraiser for Help For Heroes Richard Lupton accepted the money with gratitude on behalf of returning servicemen and women.

He said the total raised for the charity since its inception was now £90million but £70million of that had already been spent. The money was being poured into rehabilitation complexes where the amputees and other injured could be together and support each other as they underwent intensive therapies and retraining to help them live as full a life as possible.

A hit for Rotary songs of praise

■ **EVENING OF PRAISE: Crewkerne Rotary Pesident Michael Dods, past president Peter Fisk, Dr Rosemary Longhurst BDS, Rotarian Tony Barratt, and Pastor Mark Harris.**

CREWKERNE Rotary Club songs of praise evening proved very popular and the parish Church of St Bartholomewís was full for the evening.

The event, organised by the international committee, was in place of the Sing Sankey held in previous years, to appeal to a wider congregation. The proceeds which reached, in excess of £600 will go to Dentaid, a charity "to improve the oral health of disadvantaged communities around the world".

A short talk was given by Dr Rosemary Longhurst BDS a retired dental surgeon, on behalf of Dentaid, which began in 1996 and has supported over 200 oral health projects in over 50 countries. The charity encourages dentists who are upgrading their surgeries to donate their old equipment, which is then refurbished and sent abroad.

The Yeovil Salvation Army Band led the spirited singing by the full congregation and Mike and Trish Ayres of Mike's Music in Crewkerne played and sang two songs.

Further entertainment was supplied by The St Michael Singers led by Madelaine, a youth choir from Yeovil. A Rotarian commented that one of their members, Emily Muntz, brought tears to the eyes with a wonderful solo performance of "Somewhere over the Rainbow".

The evening was compered by the Reverend Michael Gallager and Pastor Mark Harris who gave brief backgrounds of the hymns. Refreshments were served in the interval by the ladies of Inner Wheel and the evening was brought to a close with votes of thanks by the President of the Crewkerne Rotary Club, Michael Dods.

60 seconds

LINDA Croton came to Chard at six-weeks-old when her parents, who had both worked at Dennings during the war, moved into one of the Holcombe prefabs and her father went back to be a driver at Dennings.

She went to the convent school and couldn't wait to leave, taking her first job at Stirlings in Crewkerne then becoming an office junior at a solicitors in Chard. Later she moved to TRG Lawrence and Sons. She has just celebrated her silver wedding.

Linda has been the chairperson of Chard Ladies Evening Guild for the last four years having been a member since 2003 when her late mother, who was a founder member, persuaded her to go along. They used to meet in the Guildhall until a couple of years ago and now meet in the hall at Manor Court School but have smaller groups that meet in between times at their own homes for specific activities or go for trips out.

● **HOW did you become a member of the Guild?**
Mum had been a founder member and she used to go with some other ladies and they shared a taxi. When the others no longer went she asked if I would take her and pick her up, then she persuaded me to come in. I thought it was hilarious, Mary Botwright was leading things then and she is like me, formal but not overly so and I got hiked onto the committee almost straight away.

● **IS it hard to get younger members?**
I think every organisation is suffering from lack of members, younger women are so busy because children do so much these days. I think they look on us as old fogies too but we're not and we have some very interesting speakers, I've learned a lot. I like the companionship, there is always someone you can ring up if you have a problem or need a chat and I know a lot of people but it's different when you are in a guild, you tend to have the same ideas.

● **DO you like to travel?**
Oh yes we have been all over the place, Australia, New Zealand, Peru and Canada. We went to Norway in February and went on one of the working ships for 12 days so we could see the Northern lights. It was wonderful, they went from horizon to the other and were right over the top of the ship and they really do dance and slither.

● **WHAT do you like to see?**
I enjoy the historical sites like Machu Picchu in Peru that was amazing, you go around a corner and there it is. I just stood there and could have cried, it was so magnificent and we could actually touch it, something so very old.

We saw Ayres Rock to but didn't go right up to it, we saw it in the sunset and flew around it. We decided to do these things while we can and we are lucky enough to have the money to do it. I had viral meningitis last year and found out I had had mini strokes although they can't say when, so you just don't know and it made me even more determined to see these things while we are able.

● **WHAT would you like to see change in Chard?**
I think Chard needs a heart but I don't know what that heart is. I agree we need some regeneration but it looks like they want to take away car parks which is crazy, we have a parking problem already. We need more small individual shops and a clothes shop that caters for the mid-age range for ladies.

The trouble is getting people to support the shops and not go out of town especially with petrol being what it is.

● **WHAT do you like about Chard?**
On the whole the people are very friendly and I do think if anything happened in the town, the people would all pull together and help each other.

● **WHAT else do you do with your time?**
I play skittles for the Perry Street Ladies League in the summer and I like to spend time with the grandchildren when I can, the eldest is 20 now and has just finished his apprenticeship at Gooch and Housego, which wasn't easy for him as he is dyslexic. We are so proud.

● **IF you could step into any period of history when would it be?**
I think the Victorian age, although not as one of the servants. It was a time when things probably changed a lot and I would like to have been there to see it.

● **IF you could meet anyone past or present who would you choose?**
I'd love to have met Winston Churchill and Florence Nightingale but I would also like to talk to my grandmother on my motherís side. She was a nurse and a councillor in Paignton and spoke at the Labour annual meetings. I'd like to have known more of her views but you don't think of these things when you're younger.

I'd love to meet David Cameron and speak with him about everything, not because I don't believe in everything he's doing, I'd just like to speak with him.

● **AND what would you like with you on your island?**
A radio because I like to listen to Radio 4, body lotion for my skin, some books I like a bit of everything, fiction non-fiction and travel books. I'd also like a picture of my family so I could shout at them for not coming to rescue me.

● **Do you have any unfulfilled ambitions?**
I wish I had tried harder at school and done more. I took GCSE accounting at night school but I wish I had appreciated school and aimed higher. I think I could have made more of myself career wise.

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■ DID YOU GO TO OUR SCHOOL?: Chard Methodist preschool holding a 40 year reunion

Preschool turns 40

IN SEPTEMBER Chard Methodist Preschool will be celebrating 40 years, but they want to hold a big reunion party in July for anyone connected with the preschool from past and present.

If you attended the preschool or were a supervisor or in any way connected over the last 40 years, they would like you to contact them and join in the fun. Christine Parsons, supervisor since 1999 said the reason for the early celebration was by request of the Reverend Marilyn Tricker who wanted to be involved before she retires later in the year.

She said: "We want to have a celebration week, starting on Monday, July 4th, with a picnic to include the toddlers and a party for everyone on the Saturday afternoon.

"We haven't finalised times yet but it would be great if we can get as many people as possible to join us. We hope the Mayor will come too."

The preschool meet in the hall behind the Methodist Church and have an all-weather play surface as well as a grass area enclosed at the back of the building with a slide, trikes and a piece of equipment the staff affectionately call the hide and slide. They can take up to 24 children from two to school ages and currently have 20.

If anyone would like to attend the reunion, they are asked to contact Sharon Koike by email sharonkoike007@orangehome.co.uk or phone 01460 261676 or Margaret Scowen 63140.

Schools link recognised

MERRIOTT First School football team has been presented with a certificate of merit from the Football Association for their inclusion in the club link programme.

The award was an official acknowledgement of the school's link with Merriott Youth Football and Maiden Beech and Wadham Schools.

School Sports Coordinator Bob Brunt, who initiated the link which started through the school's sport partnership, said that very few school clubs were awarded in this way.

Merriott Youth had sponsored the kit for the first school. Merriott youth secretary Monica Hayden, said: "The link with the middle and senior schools means we can use the school fields on Saturdays. The middle school children are being encouraged to join Merriott Youth and we hope to link with all the other first schools to get a tournament going. Our coaches already come into Merriott School every week for free and Ashlands are linking up."

Mr Brunt added: "The good thing is we are getting lots of girls involved, we already have under 15s and should have under 12s by next year."

RARE ACHIEVEMENT: Caroline Richard primary link teacher, Monica Hayden Merriott Youth secretary, SSCo Bob Brunt and members of the Merriott First School football team with their FA certificate

■ HARDWORKING ACHIEVERS: Scholarship winners Georgina Lucas from Crewkerne and Phoebe-Jo Gardener from East Chinnock

Scholarship girls

CHARD School is delighted to announce that two of their pupils, Georgina Lucas and Phoebe-Jo Gardener have won scholarships to The Park School in Yeovil.

Georgina from Crewkerne, has been awarded a major academic and a minor music scholarship and Phoebe-Jo from East Chinnock†has been awarded a minor academic and a major music scholarship.

Headmaster Mr John Stotesbury was very pleased with the pupils' success.

He said: "I am very proud of Phoebe and Georgina's achievements. Winning a scholarship is no easy feat and it is testimony to their commitment and musical abilities to have won them".

Mother's Day

3rd April 2011

As we all know Mothering Sunday is a time when children pay respect to their Mums, often giving a gift and a card.

Many churches in the area will give the children in the congregation a little bunch of spring flowers to give to their Mothers as a thank you for all their care and love throughout the year.

Mothering Sunday is not a fixed day because it is always the middle Sunday in Lent. This means that Mother's Day in the UK will fall on different dates each year and sometimes even falls in different months. Historically, Mothering Sunday has been celebrated in the UK since at least the16th century.

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FORDE ABBEY HOUSE REOPENS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 1st

SPRING is always a busy time of year for Forde Abbey, but this year has been a showstopper. In quick succession, we've had Snowdrop Weekend, Crocus Week and, of course, our amazingly successful Plant and Gardening Fair.

The weather has been perfect, too, for all our Spring bulbs, who have produced spectacular displays from classic Snowdrops and Crocuses to Cyclamen and Flag Irises.

We've got lots more events coming up at the Abbey. On Saturday, March 19th the Cotley Hunt are holding their third annual hedge laying competition, combined with a meet of the Cotley Hounds. This event is not only to preserve an important rural craft, it is also in aid of the children's charity The Rainbow Trust.

After an intense period of spring cleaning, Forde Abbey is sparkling and ready to reopen to the public

on Friday, April 1st. If you haven't already seen the magnificent 17th Century Mortlake Tapestries, which were specially made for the Saloon, then put a date in the diary to come and visit.

For Mothering Sunday on Sunday 3rd April, Forde Abbey is giving all mums free posies of flowers from the gardens here.

Finally, who can resist an Easter Egg Hunt! Over Easter Weekend (April 24th and 25th) there will be a trail of clues laid around the garden and the prizes will be…chocolate eggs, of course!

For further information, go to www.fordeabbey.co.uk or telephone: 01460 221290.

House open: Tuesday to Friday, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays, 12noon-4pm (last admission). Gardens open: Daily, 10am-4.30pm (last admission). Garden closes 6.30pm. Tearoom open daily 11am-4.30pm. Gift shop and plant centre open daily 10am-5pm.

Going Out Gigs

ALEXANDRA BURKE FOR WINCANTON RACECOURSE GIG

WINCANTON Racecourse announced today that 2008 X Factor winner, ALEXANDRA BURKE, will perform live on-course for Evening Meeting & Music Night on Thursday, May 5th.

Racegoers can look forward to Alexandra Burke performing her four number one singles - Hallelujah, Bad Boys, All Night Long and Start Without You alongside her other hits.

Tickets are on sale now, prices starting from £13 for adults and £5 for children. Call 0844 579 3014 to book

Wincanton's gates open at 3.30pm with the first race off at 5.35pm and the last race at 8.15pm.

Alexandra Burke will perform immediately after racing (approx 8.20pm).

Steve Parlett, Wincanton Racecourse's newly appointed General Manager, says: "The team at Wincanton are looking forward to an array of exciting and fresh projects, starting with the Alexandra's performance here.

"Alexandra is an X Factor phenomenon with a wide appeal. We believe her performance will attract newcomers to Wincanton Racecourse and our sport."

Alexandra added: "Performing at Wincanton Racecourse's Evening Meeting & Music Night will be my first gig in the area and one of my first outdoor shows this summer so I can't wait!"

For more details visit www.wincantonracecourse.co.uk

ILMINSTER arts centre AT THE MEETING HOUSE

SPRING OPEN EXHIBITION
in the Main Gallery and Café Gallery
Until Saturday 16th April
Open Daily (except Sunday). Free entry
This annual open exhibition is a celebration of the region's artistic talent and will feature the best work selected by an independent panel of judges. Prizes to be awarded include The Branston Art Award of £500, a two-week exhibition at IAC in 2012, and a Visitors Choice award.

JOHN LAW OPT TRIO
Friday 1st April at 8pm
Tickets £12 (Pre-show supper £8 at 7pm)
In contrast to his Art of Sound Trio, Pianist John Law's new trio project explores the area of playing other people's tunes ('OPT'). John will be accompanied by highly skilled musicians Tom Farmer on bass and Asaf Sirkis on drums.

Booking details: 01460 54973
www.themeetinghouse.org.uk
info@themeetinghouse.org.uk
East Street, Ilminster, Somerset. TA19 0AN.
Open Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30, Sat 10.00-2.30.

Vocal Encouragement
Singing techniques
Individually tailored lessons
Tel: 01460 63247 Mobile: 07796 280453
Learn to sing your favourite songs in tune without strain
Joy Stock Vocal Encourager
Email: joy@vocal-encouragement.co.uk

The Duke of York
North Street,
Shepton Beauchamp,
Nr Ilminster,
Somerset TA19 0LW
01460 240314 | www.thedukeshepton.co.uk

A 17th Century Freehouse set in the beautiful Somerset Village of Shepton Beauchamp
Book now for Easter weekend and Mothers Day
• Award winning food • Function room
• Honeymoon suite • Gardens
• Accommodation • Skittle alley

THIS WEEK'S CDS

THE STROKES ***Angles***
With their first release in five years, The Strokes return with the hugely anticipated Angles. Self-produced and with frontman Julian Casablancas on magnificent form, the fourth studio offering from the one of the most important bands of their generation is arguably the quintet's finest work.

DURAN DURAN ***All You Need is Now***
Eighties heartthrobs Duran Duran are back on the top of their game with this thirteenth studio album. The international superstars have gone "back to basics" to produce a classic pop album in the vein of their early material. Produced by Mark Ronson, it features guest spots by Kelis and Scissor Sister Ana Matronic.

THE DRIFTERS ***Up On The Roof – The Very Best Of***
The Drifters first hit our airwaves in 1953, now 58 years on and 65 members later The Drifters are releasing yet another greatest hits album. The album includes the original timeless classics such as: "Saturday Night at the Movies" and "Kissing In The Back Row of the Movies" as well as two bonus tracks performed by the current line-up.

NICOLE SCHERZINGER ***Killer Love***
With guests including Enrique Inglesias and Sting, Killer Love is the superb debut album from Pussycat Dolls frontwoman, Nicole Scherzinger.
The chart topping superstar shows no signs of faltering under the pressure of her first solo album.

RONAN KEATING & BURT BACHARACH
When Ronan Met Burt
A musical legend meets Ronan Keating in this unusual pairing for a studio album. Performing a flawless collection of material from the legendary composer, Ronan Keating's eighth solo studio release takes him in an intriguing new direction.

THIS WEEK'S DVDS

SKYLINE
Los Angeles is the setting for this classic tale of Alien invasion.
Following in the footsteps of big budget productions like Independence Day and War of the Worlds, Skyline is another excellent take on apocalyptic invasion.
Our brave band of survivors must resist the light as they fight for their lives and try to save the human race from the relentless onslaught of the alien hordes.

THE KID'S ARE ALL RIGHT
Lesbian parents Nic and Jules have their cosy suburban Southern California home turned upside down when teenage children decide to track down their biological dad. As their father comes into the lives of the forthright four, an unexpected new chapter begins for them as family ties are defined, re-defined, and then re-re-defined.

CHRISTOPHER AND HIS KIND
Based on the writer Christopher Isherwood's critically acclaimed memoir, Christopher And His Kind, this landmark BBC adaptation gives a fascinating glimpse into the decadent and politically unstable world of 1930s Berlin.
Written by acclaimed playwright Kevin Elyot, this dramatic love story is set against the vibrant backdrop of Berlin's cabaret nightlife and the dark rise of Nazi politics.

LONDON BOULEVARD
A crime drama set on the streets of London, about a South London criminal (Colin Farrell) who, after release from prison, tries to give up his life as a gangster by becoming a handyman for a reclusive young actress (Keira Knightly).

SPIDERHOLE
Together with her three art student friends, Molly, a pretty and free-spirited artist embark upon a mission to find an empty house in London where they can live as squatters, free from rent, and free to party.
Having found the ideal house, they break in and quickly get comfortable, claiming the place as their own. However, its not long before they realise they are not alone and their ideal home turns to a house of terror. Who or what is the puppet master orchestrating their bloody destruction?

CRICKET ST THOMAS HOTEL
A fine leisure hotel set in a beautiful Somerset Valley

MOTHERING SUNDAY
2-Course Carvery Lunch
Followed by a show of song & dance from the musicals
£18 adults - £9 children
Booking is essential
Cricket St Thomas Hotel, Chard, Somerset TA20 4DD
www.warnerleisurehotels.co.uk Tel: 01460 30111

Live music from
something french
at The Lamb Inn, Axminster
2nd April 2011, 8.30pm
for more details or to book something french
call 07907 570829
email somethingfrenchband@hotmail.co.uk
or find us on facebook

MARINE theatre
LYME REGIS

Hazel O'Connor & The Bluja Project

Award winning singer-songwriter Hazel O'Connor and her accomplished sisters-in-arms and fellow performers; virtuoso saxophonist Clare Hirst (Bellestars, Communards, David Bowie) and pianist and vocalist Sarah Fisher (Eurythmics, Sax in the City) perform an eclectic mix of O'Connor originals and timeless classics. This superb torch song trio will deliver a blend of voices and a sweet touch of class to their vibrant performance.
Saturday 27th March, 7.30pm. £15

JUST FAIR LAUGHS: FUNNY FRIDAYS 18+
DOM CARROLL
"Deadpan comic with a natural affinity for the dead" - INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY
TOM BELL
"As brilliant as a fish on a bicycle and even more preposterous" - CHORTLE
DAMION LARKIN MC
"One of the country's top new acts" - BBC

Friday 1st April, 8.30pm, £10

UPCOMING DRAMAS
Attention seekers
SHORT SHRIFTS
Sat 16th April, 8pm

Paines Plough
TINY VOLCANOES
Sat 7th May, 8pm

Patchwork Theatre
A RESOUNDING TINKLE
Sat 28th May, 8pm

Box Office: Lyme Regis TIC 01297 442138
or buy online at www.marinetheatre.com

weekenderlife

weekenderlife DIARY DATES

FRIDAY MARCH 25TH

TATWORTH: FILM: 'Another Year' at the Memorial Hall, from 8pm (doors open 7:30pm). Organised by T&F Movies. Telephone 01460 220198 for more information.
CREWKERNE: Country Market at Henhayes Community Centre, 9am - 11am. Telephone 01460 74340 for more details.
HORTON CROSS, ILMINSTER: Demonstration - Graham Cox - Moody Views in Pastel. At the The Monks Yard, Events Room, Horton Cross Farm, 2-4pm. Telephone 01460 30012 for more details.

SATURDAY MARCH 26TH

CLAPTON: Barn Dance at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall with local band The Crooked Furrow. From 7.30pm. Soup and rolls, bar, raffle. All welcome, experienced and patient caller. Telephone 01460 74849 for more details.
CREWKERNE: Community Fair at the Victoria Hall from 10am - 1pm, including displays by local groups and organisations. Refreshments will be available. Admission is free. Organised by ABCD (A Better Crewkerne & District)
MERRIOTT: New To You Sale at the Tithe Barn from 10am - 11.30am. Telepone 01460 72704 for more details.
ILMINSTER: Harlequin Carnival Club Jumble Sale at the Parish Hall at 2pm. Lots of Bric-a-brac and jumble will be available. For further information call 01460 52432.
MERRIOTT: Cash Bingo at Merriott Village Hall. Doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.45pm. Raffle and refreshments available. For more details call 01460 52432.

SUNDAY MARCH 27TH

ILMINSTER: 'Sunday Spice' fundraising lunch at Ilminster Arts Centre from 12.30pm. An Asian-style lunch with musical accompaniment by Ricky Romain on sitar. Fund raised to support Ilminster Arts Centre. Menu includes Burmese Style Beef Curry, Thai Panang Curry, Indian Dahl with Spinach, Vegetable Jalfrezi; all served with rice naan breads and cucumber raita. Telephone 01460 54973 for more details.

MONDAY MARCH 28TH

HORTON: Rosie Crane Trust AGM is being held in the Meeting Room, Horton Village Hall at 7.30 pm. All welcome. Telephone 01460 55120 or email contact@rosiecranetrust.co.uk for more information.
ILMINSTER: Minster Probus Lunch at the Shrubbery Hotel from 12noon. Telephone 01460 52108 for more details.
MISTERTON: Easter Bingo at Misterton Village Hall in aid of Haselbury Plucknett School. Doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm. 75p per book.

TUESDAY MARCH 29TH

CREWKERNE: Social group older more frail people who like a laugh and a chat. At Henhayes Community Centre. Lunch £5.50 with cup of tea/coffee. Quiz/bingo. Transport available. 10am - 2.30pm. Telephone 01460 271541 for more details.
MERRIOTT: James Bond will be giving a presentation on the history of Park and Gardens in Somerset. The meeting will be held at the Tithe Barn, Chruch Street at 7.30pm. Refreshments available - all welcome. Organised by Merriott Gardening Club.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 30TH

CHARD: Chard Museum AGM at Crowshute House from 7.30pm
CHARD: Chard Helmstedt Twinners are invited to join in a walk starting at 10am from Chard Reservoir Car Park. Followed by refreshments (soup), cost £4 per person. Please call to confirm attendance on 68398.

WEDNESDAY 30TH AND THURSDAY MARCH 31ST

ILMINSTER: Swanmead School production RATS the musical, based on the Pied Piper of Hamelin. 7-8pm each night. Tickets £3 adults, £2 children available from the school office.

THURSDAY MARCH 31ST

CHARD: Chard Folk Dance Club at Combe St Nicholas Village Hall from 8pm. Telephone 01460 73259 for more details.
CREWKERNE: CUDOS AGM at the Victoria Hall from 7.45pm. Telephone 01460 74380 for more details.
CREWKERNE: Over 50s keep fit (and have a laugh) at Hanhayes Community Centre, from 10am - 11am. £3 per sessions (members £2). Lunch available but must be booked by 10.30am
CREWKERNE: Friends of Ashlands School Easter Bingo, doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7pm at the school.

FRIDAY APRIL 1ST

CREWKERNE: Crewkerne and District Twinning Association Twin Supper at St Bartholomew's Church Hall. £8 per person. 7pm for 7.30pm. Please book on 01460 75025 - all welcome.

SATURDAY APRIL 2ND

SOUTH PETHERTON: Spring Sale at the Methodist Church, from 10am-12noon. Free entry. Lots of well-stocked stalls. Refreshments available.
CHARD: Vinyl Record Spring Sale at Chard Guildhall from 9am - 12.30pm. Telephone 07990938198 for more details.
ILMINSTER: Massive Jumble Sale at Greenfylde First School from 9.30am - 1pm. Telephone 01460 54581 for more details.
CREWKERNE: Coffee Morning at The Henhayes Community Centre. Filter coffee/cake £1.60. 10 -12noon. Ring 01460 74340.
BARRINGTON: Family Easter Bingo at Barrington Village Hall. Doors open 3pm, eyes down 3.30pm, finishing 5pm. Cost of bingo books are £1 each or purchase - 6 books for £5. Refreshments available, also a raffle. All proceeds in aid of St Mary's Pre-school
CREWKERNE: Easter Coffee Morning at the Crewkerne and District Museum and Heritage Centre. 10am - 12noon. All welcome.

MONDAY APRIL 4TH

SEAVINGTON: Neroche DFAS next meeting 'Britain with Betjeman' presented by John E Vigar, who will comment on his writings and opinions discussing Architecture and history and placing his thoughts in a sociological context. Visitors are welcome at a cost of £3 per non member. Telephone 01460 239670 for more details.
ILMINSTER: Ilminster Forum AGM at the Shrubbery Hotel from 6.30pm.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 6TH

CREWKERNE: Folk Music Club at the Kings Arms from 8-10pm. Come and play acoustic instruments, sing, recite poetry or just listen. Telephone 01460 271541 for more details.

FREE weekenderlife — **South Somerset Diary Dates** *listings form*

Event .....
Date .....
Time .....
Venue .....
Town Village .....
Organised by ..... Tel No .....

Send your Diary Dates listings to: Lyme Media and Events, Unit 3, St Michael's Business Centre, LYME REGIS, Dorset DT7 3DB. **fax:** 01297 444981, **or e-mail:** rob@pemedia.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE: This is a free service and whilst we endeavour to include all entries, we cannot guarantee all listings submitted will be published. Please use one form per event you wish to submit.

WE ARE UNABLE TO TAKE DIARY DATES LISTINGS OVER THE PHONE
Deadline for postal / e-mail entries is Wednesday, 12noon

Going Out Film

This week's new releases

LIMITLESS 15
SCI-FI action flick Limitless sees copywriter Eddie Morra (Bradley Copper, The Hangover) discover a top-secret drug which bestows him with super human abilities. As his usage begins to change his life, he begins to consider the drug's shadowy origins; meanwhile, a group of killers trails his every move.
Robert De Niro also stars.

COUNTRY STRONG 12A
COUNTRY Strong is a drama centered on a rising country-music songwriter (Garrett Hedlund, Tron: Legacy) who sparks with a fallen star (Gwyneth Paltrow). Together, they mount his ascent and her comeback, which leads to romantic complications involving her husband/manager (Tim McGraw) and a beauty queen-turned-singer (Leighton Meester).

THE EAGLE 12A
IN 140 AD, twenty years after the unexplained disappearance of the entire Ninth Legion in the mountains of Scotland, young centurion Marcus Aquila (Channing Tatum) arrives from Rome to solve the mystery and restore the reputation of his father, the commander of the Ninth. Accompanied only by his British slave Esca (Jamie Bell), Marcus sets out across Hadrian's Wall into the uncharted highlands of Caledonia - to confront its savage tribes, make peace with his father's memory, and retrieve the lost legion's golden emblem, the Eagle of the Ninth.

FASTER 15
An ex-con (Dwayne Johnson) sets out to avenge his brother's death after they were double-crossed during a heist years ago. During his campaign, however, he's tracked by a veteran cop (Billy Bob Thornton) and an egocentric hit man (Oliver Jackson-Cohen).

Forthcoming Events in Chard Guildhall

EVERY Sunday 10:30 am
FOREFRONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Church Service - All welcome

Every Tuesday 9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
SLIMMING WORLD
Lose weight the extra easy way. Come along and find out how.

Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th April 10:00am to 1:00pm
EASTER FUN TIME
for 8–11 year olds
Sports, games, arts and crafts
FREE ENTRY
For more information please contact chard Town Council or visit the website on www.chard.gov.uk

Every other Wednesday, next meeting 30th March. 10:30am - 12:30pm
MEMORY CAFE
Friendly and informal gathering for information, support and Social contact for people affected by dementia

Every Wednesday 7.30pm - 9.15pm
MEETING VOICES in the Town Hall
Song workshops for all "if you can speak you can sing"
Come and join us

Every Thursday 9.00am - 2.00pm
ANTIQUES FAIR
Books, china, jewellery & much more
Admission free, refreshments and lunches available
For further information contact 01460 239 567
ANTIQUES FAIR TRADERS
We are offering a **SPECIAL OFFER** month in March
Hire a Table for only £7 (usual price £10)

THURSDAYS 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and SATURDAYS 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
CAFÉ OPEN

Every Thursday 7:45 pm to 8:30 pm
ZUMBA FITNESS
Exciting latin moves. A fun based fitness party workout
For Information call 07738014409 or email zumbasom@hotmail.com

Friday 1st April and Saturday 2nd April 7:00 pm
Kelly Leigh School of Dance
presents
SHOW STOPPERS
On behalf of THE MAYOR'S CHARITY
£5 per ticket
Tickets on sale now from Chard Town Council Reception Desk

Saturday 9th April 10.00 am - 11.00 am
COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY

Saturday 2nd April 9.00am to 12.30pm
POPULAR FAYRE in the Guildhall
Admission free, refreshments available

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Saturdays 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
CHARD TOWN COUNCIL RECEPTION

We have many other events taking place.
For further details please contact
Chard Town Council, The Guildhall, Chard
Tel: 01460 239 567
WWW.CHARD.GOV.UK

CINEMA LISTINGS

Friday, March 25th - Thursday, March 31st
ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

TAUNTON ODEON
Heron Gate, Riverside
Tel: 0871 22 44 007
www.odeon.co.uk

A Turtle's Tale *in 2D* U
Sat & Sun: 11.30, 13.30
A Turtle's Tale *in 3D* U
Daily: 16.45, 19.10
Plus Sat & Sun: 12.20, 14.30
Battle: Los Angeles 12A
Fri, Mon: 15.40, 18.10, 20.40
Sat: 13.10, 15.40, 18.10, 20.40
Sun: 18.10, 20.40
Tue: 14.50, 17.20
Chalet Girl 12A
Daily: 17.50
Plus Sat & Sun: 12.40
Gnomeo and Juliet *in 2D* U
Sat & Sun: 11.00
Gnomeo and Juliet *in 3D* U
Sat & Sun: 11.15, plus Sun 13.10
Hall Pass 15
Daily: 21.10
Limitless 15
Daily: 15.30, 18.20, 20.50
Plus Sat & Sun: 12.30
Megamind PG
Sat & Sun: 10.45
Paul 15
Daily: 15.20, 17.40, 20.10
Plus Sat & Sun: 12.10
Rango PG
Daily: 15.10, 17.30
Plus Sat & Sun: 10.30, 12.50
The Eagle 12A
Daily: 15.50, 18.30, 22.00
Plus Sat & Sun: 13.00
The King's Speech 12A
Daily: 19.50
The Lincoln Lawyer 15
Daily: 15.00, 20.20
Unknown 12A
Daily: 15.35, 18.00, 20.30

YEOVIL CINEWORLD
Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Rd
Tel: 0871 200 2000
www.cineworld.co.uk

Limitless 15
Daily: 13.30, 16.10, 18.40, 21.10
Plus Sun: 11.10
Battle: Los Angeles 12A
Daily: 15.10, 17.40, 20.10
Plus Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.30
Submarine 15
Daily: 13.15, 15.45, 18.20, 20.50
A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures *in 2D* U
Daily: 14.00, 16.00, 18.00
Plus Sat & Sun: 12.00
A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures *in 3D* U
Daily: 13.00, 15.00, 17.00, 19.00
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.00
Chalet Girl 12A
Daily: 13.50, 16.30, 18.50, 21.10
Anuvahood 15
Daily: 16.20, 18.30, 20.30
The Eagle 12A
Daily: 12.30, 15.30, 18.15, 21.00
Faster 15
Daily: 14.15, 16.45, 19.15, 21.30
Hall Pass 15
Daily: 20.20
Rango PG
Fri, Mon-Thu: 13.40, 17.50
Sat & Sun: 10.15, 11.20, 12.40, 13.40, 15.20, 17.50
The Adjustment Bureau 12A
Daily: 21.20
I Am Number Four 12A
Sat & Sun: 11.15
Paul 15
Daily: 20.00
Gnomeo & Juliet *in 2D* U
Sat & Sun: 10.30, 12.40
Tangled *in 2D* PG
Sat & Sun: 10.30
The King's Speech 12A
Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.40, 15.10
Despicable Me U Sat: 10.10
Furry Vengeance PG Sat: 10.00
How To Train Your Dragon PG
Sat: 10.20

LYME REGIS REGENT
Broad Street, Lyme Regis
Tel: 0871 230 3200
www.scottcinemas.co.uk

Gnomeo & Juliet 3D U Sat & Sun: 12.50
Rango PG Sat & Sun: 14.45
The Eagle 12A Daily: 19.45, Plus Sat, Sun, Wed: 17.05
Made In Dagenham 15 Wed: 10.30am
The King's Speech 12A Wed: 14.40

Chard Folk Dance Club keep English theme on St Patrick's Day

THE caller at the recent meeting of Chard Folk Dance Club, Mary Blackborow, declared herself firmly rooted in the English Folk Dance tradition, so, despite the fact that it was St. Patrick's Day, the only vaguely Irish dance of the evening was Bridge of Athlone, a dance that was as familiar and well-loved by the members as most of the other dances that Mary chose to call that night. Accompanied by the two accordions of Robert Blackborow, Mary's husband, and Hilary Mead, and occasionally by Mary herself on violin, the members danced to such favourites as Blaydon Races, Balance the Star, Nottingham Swing, The Rose Tree, Tavern in the Town, Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight, Clopton Bridge, Sweet Marie, and La Russe. There were two less familiar dances just to keep the dancers on their toes - Fennel, a Welsh dance, and the intriguingly named Buttered Peas.

At the next meeting of the club, at Combe St.Nicholas Village Hall, on Thursday March 31st, the musician and caller will be Brian Heaton.

Incredible blues talents join forces for gig

THE Blues Band's Dave Kelly brings an all star cast of British bluesers to the Square + Compass, including Maggie Bell (Stone the Crows), Colin Allen (Stone the Crows, John Mayall, Bob Dylan) Frank Dietz (Eric Burdon), Zoot Money (Big Roll Band, The Animals, Peter Green... everybody!) and astounding Bass player Colin Hodgkinson (Alexis Korner, Spencer Davis Band), In 2007 Scottish rock and soul diva Maggie Bell joined forces with The Blues Band's slide guitar wizard Dave Kelly for some acoustic duo shows.

They've had great success on these tours and even more fun. They have now put it all together in a band format with *The BBQ!*

The BBQ play at The Barn at The Square + Compass, Windmill Hill, Nr Ilminster on Sunday, March 27th.

Tickets cost £15 in advance or £17 on the door. Call 01823 480467 to book.

Doors open 8pm, with music starting at 9pm. Food is available from 7pm, but please pre-book.

PUT ON YOUR RUNNING SHOES FOR THE CREWKERNE NINE

FOR the last 31 years the Crewkerne Nine, or as it was first called the Crewkerne Mini Marathon, was an important event of the Crewkerne Carnival year and has consistently been a major fundraiser for the carnival and local charities.

With the demise of the Carnival, Crewkerne Running Club decided to carry on with the race which is very popular with runners both local and from far afield.

The race is the same age as the London Marathon, which was the inspiration for the first event, known as the Crewkerne Mini-Marathon. A local teacher from Wadham School, Barry Dodd, enlisted the help and sponsorship of Doyelyn Hire Company and set up the race. The route was intended to be 10 miles and was measured using a car speedometer. Legend has it that an Austin A55 belonging to the local Police Sergeant at the time was used. Austin speedos being a little on the optimistic side subsequent measuring techniques showed that the route was nearer nine miles than ten and in the interest of tradition it has been kept as the Crewkerne Nine ever since.

In the early years there were no other races of this type in the area. This was in fact the beginning of the 'running boom' which meant that the race was well supported with several hundred runners every year. On the 10th anniversary, and with the financial support of local company Cronite, we had a special medal struck by the Birmingham Mint. This medal is of coin quality and was very highly prized at the time when the 10th. Race attracted nearly 1000 runners. As the years passed more and more races were held and today it is difficult to find a weekend when there are not several races in this area alone. This, of course, makes it harder and harder to keep the numbers of runners up to a respectable level.

For the first couple of years finishers in the race received a certificate to record their achievement. Then in 1983 cardboard medals were awarded. Cardboard medals were also given out in 1984 and 1985 but they became smaller! Crewkerne Running Club took over the organisation of the race in 1986 and Cronite sponsored the race for many years. From 1986 to 1992 (except for 1990, the medal year) finishers received a souvenir cloth badge which many regular runners stitched onto tracksuit tops making them quite collectable. Then in 1993 it was decided that organisers would try and increase the prestige of the event and give finishers a Tee shirt to commemorate the event. The design of that first Crewkerne Tee shirt came second in a nationwide race Tee shirt competition organised by Runners World magazine.

The race is based around the Town Hall and the centre of the town is very much taken up by the event for the whole morning. The finishing line can generate some dramatic moments and a carnival atmosphere for both the competitors and the spectators.

There are lots of prizes and souvenirs for race competitors at Crewkerne, as well as excellent facilities. Plenty of parking, secure changing in the Town Hall, drinks every 2 miles and at the finish and first aid cover provided by the British Red Cross.

On Sunday, May 22nd, at 10 am, if all goes well, a large field of runners will set off from Crewkerne at the start of the 31st Crewkerne Nine race. A few minutes later and the junior fun run, fun run and Business Challenge will set off on a shorter route. These races take in the undulating (polite way of saying 'very hilly') lanes to the northwest of Crewkerne passing through Hinton St.George and Dinnington before returning to Crewkerne.

The Stokes Partnership of solicitors who have been very supportive over the years sponsors the races and the proceeds from the event will this year be donated to St. Margaret's Hospice.

This event is also a part of the Somerset Race Series, a sort of Grand Prix of road races where athletes can accumulate points from their 8 best races to decide the series winners at the end of the year.

For more information and downloadable entry forms please visit our website at www.crewkernerc.btck.co.uk or telephone Derek Boles on 01460 74150.

Fairwater Head Hotel

★ West Country Tours & Crafts ★
Country House Tours and Breaks

Tour of Devon & Dorset Stately Homes & Gardens:
Three nights dinner, bed & breakfast plus visits to Forde Abbey, Mapperton House, Athelhampton & Sherborne Castle plus lunch at The River Cottage Canteen.

Jane Austen & Thomas Hardy Tour:
Three nights dinner, bed & breakfast plus visits to Lyme Regis, Montacute House, Dorchester, Bere Regis & Stinsford.

Agatha Christie's Devon Tour:
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GEM'S top tips for fuel efficiency

After this week's budgets and the possible impact of the proposed fuel duty may have on motorists, road safety and breakdown organisation GEM Motoring Assist is encouraging drivers to be as fuel efficient as possible and has come up with some top tips to make your tank last longer.

David Williams, MBE, CEO of GEM Motoring Assist comments, "We have never seen such a significant increase in fuel prices largely due to the VAT increase as well as high global oil prices. There are however, some steps that the everyday motorist can be taking to be as fuel efficient as possible and ensure they are getting every penny's worth. Many of the tips are quite simple, yet many people do not realise just how much of an impact they could have."

1. Get it Checked:

Modern car engines are complicated pieces of machinery which rely on a vast array of electronic components that can easily fail. To ensure maximum efficiency from your engine, have your car serviced regularly by a recognised garage. The money spent can make you savings in the long term.

2. 'Tread Carefully':

Ensure that your tyres are always inflated to the correct pressure. Tyres which are under inflated by even a small amount can increase fuel consumption noticeably.

Check them at least once per month, try to check pressures when the tyres are warm after a short drive as 'cold' tyres give a false low pressure reading.

3. Lose Weight:

Never carry unnecessary weight in the car as it will reduce efficiency. Golf clubs, push chairs, tool boxes etc can 'weigh down' a car so remove them when they are not needed. Also remove roof racks, cycle racks, storage boxes etc when they are not being used as they affect the aerodynamics of the car.

4. Hot & Cold:

Do not waste fuel by warming the car before a journey. However a warm engine is more efficient than a cold one so try to carry out all your trips in succession so that the engine does not get cold between stops.

5. Plan Ahead:

Take a little time to plan your journeys to avoid congestion, to ensure you take the best route and that you know exactly where you are going. An unplanned detour because you are lost can be a very costly error in terms of wasted fuel. Plan you day's trips so that you avoid unnecessary duplication of the same journey.

6. Slow Down:

By reducing your average speed by just a few MPH can have noticeable effect on your fuel consumption and your wallet. Driving at 70 MPH uses 9% more fuel than driving at 60 MPH.

Cruising at 80 MPH (a recent suggestion to raise the motorway limit) uses a staggering 25% more fuel than driving at 70 MPH.

7. Nice and Easy does it:

Most drivers could save a significant amount of fuel by simply reading the road further ahead and slowing earlier for traffic lights and other hazards thus avoiding unnecessary acceleration, heavy braking and then acceleration while pulling away again. Carrying out these manoeuvres in a steady more controlled way will not add to your journey time but will reduce your fuel bill.

Driving more 'gently' avoiding harsh acceleration and using the gearbox to gain a higher gear more quickly could possibly be the best fuel efficient tip. Where possible change up before reaching 2,500 rpm (petrol) 2,000 rpm (diesel).

If you are in a long hold up and you are stationary for more than a couple of minutes switch your engine off to save fuel. Modern cars use virtually no extra fuel when they are re-started without pressing the accelerator.

Most newer cars have an indicator showing fuel consumption, normally expressed in mpg which is constantly monitoring your driving efficiency. Make a greater effort to improve this figure on every journey. It can become quite addictive to try and increase the mpg shown.

8. Keep Your Cool:

Most newer cars are fitted with air conditioning. If the extra cooling is not needed by you or your passengers switch the air conditioning off to reduce demand on the engine. However, the system must not be turned off for long periods as harmful bacteria can build up and could prove costly to repair. Use air conditioning sparingly but ensure it is on for several minutes at least every couple of weeks.

Remember, at higher speeds opening car windows may save the use of the air conditioning but it will increase the 'drag' on the car thus outweighing the fuel saving. So keep windows and sun roofs closed on faster roads.

9. Exploring for fuel:

The price of fuel can vary greatly between suppliers. However, if it requires an extra journey to seek out where to save a few pence per litre there may not be an overall saving in money. Try to remember where the best deals are and fill up when you are passing rather than make a separate journey.

10. A bit drastic:

If you are able to avoid just one journey each week by walking or cycling the saving of money at the end of the year could be substantial.

If you are thinking of changing your car consider carefully your true needs as it may be possible to swap to a smaller, more fuel efficient model. Due to recent regulations in general terms the newer the car the more fuel efficient it is likely to be. All new cars have to have clear details as to their fuel efficiency.

For further information on GEM Motoring Assist and even more driving tips please visit www.motoringassist.com.

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Mazda set to challenge as MX-5 GT breaks cover

- **Mazda MX-5 GT entry into Britcar MSA British Endurance Championship 2011**
- **Lightweight Mazda MX-5 GT race car to challenge conventional thinking**
- **Mazda MX-5 GT remains true to its roots but with more power and performance**

Mazda is set to challenge Aston Martin, Porsche, Lotus, and BMW on the race track with its lightweight Mazda MX-5 GT entry in the Britcar MSA British Endurance Championship 2011.

Weighing in at just 850kg, the Mazda MX-5 GT race car will accelerate from 0-to-60mph in just three seconds and hit a top speed of 160mph. The build of the car has been an engineering challenge to get the weight as low as possible using Mazda's gram strategy as the inspiration. Jota Sport examined every nut and bolt to reduce component weight and then match the power to the weight to give the lightest and most powerful MX-5 ever built.

An important aspect of the build was to ensure the Mazda MX-5 still remains true to its roots: great handling, huge fun-to-drive and the ability to challenge bigger more powerful competition, but at an affordable cost. The Mazda GT car ticks all those boxes and is now set to demonstrate its challenger spirit on the track.

Jota Sport, the race engineering team that will run the cars in the 2011 series, took 400 hours to build the shell to a specification that ensured it was 17 times stronger than required by the FIA. During the development they faced a number of engineering challenges such as suspension adjustments, integrating the six speed sequential gearbox, and lowering the engine. Weight saving strategies such as, the removal of interior components, reducing component weight and dipping the shell in acid lost 15kg from the MX-5 race car.

The completed MX-5 GT features a modified Mazda engine to produce 275bhp, a six speed sequential paddle shift gearbox, carbon doors and Polycarbonate windows. On the exterior, the Mazda MX-5 GT boasts a Spirited Green metallic body colour - a first on the MX-5 for Mazda UK - complimented by Jota Sport corporate coloured liveries in orange and grey.

Mazda is renowned for challenging conventions so the motivation to develop a MX-5 GT car comes naturally. It also comes at a time when Mazda has recently celebrated a number of milestones for MX-5 including its 21st anniversary and producing 900,000 MX-5 units globally since its introduction in 1989, with over 10 percent of global MX-5 sales from Britain. Meanwhile, the Mazda MX-5 continues to hold the Guinness World Record as the world's best-selling roadster – testament to its continued popularity with British open top sports car fans.

The Britcar MSA British Endurance Championship is contested over nine races from March to November including a race at the Spa Francorchamps circuit in Belgium. The first race is a three hour endurance race at Silverstone next weekend, Saturday 26 March 2011, starting at 3.00pm.

This is the fourth time that Mazda has entered Britcar and this year the Mazda MX-5 GT car will be driven by two Mazda works drivers including experienced Mazda racing driver Mark Ticehurst, 39 from Hassocks, West Sussex and Auto Express journalist and racing driver Owen Mildenhall.

"The MX-5 production race car's modest power output, bullet proof reliability and nimble handling demonstrated last year how the MX-5 can be competitive against some of the purpose-built Lotus, VW and BMW race cars. With a higher power output combined with the durability, reliability and handling attributes that the MX-5 is renowned for; the MX-5 GT race car will be strong contender against the more powerful race cars in its class," comments Graeme Fudge, PR Director, Mazda UK.

The Mazda MX-5 GT car, prepared by Tunbridge Wells-based Jota Sport features the mandatory FIA approved safety equipment including a roll cage, race seats and harness, external electric cut-off and fire extinguisher, safety catches on the bonnet and boot lids, competition steering wheel and alloy wheels, while the running gear, rear axle, gearbox and engine have been modified to enhance performance.

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Two Chard sides out of cup semi-finals

OMMY TABBERER CUP
Semi-final
Chard Rangers 1 Uplyme 3
UPLYME came from behind to book a much sought after appearance in the Tommy Tabberer Cup final at Lyme Regis' Davey Fort.

Rangers took the lead in the 10th minute through a John Mason penalty following what Uplyme manager Rob Coombe described as a "debatable" decision against defender Jack Chappell.

Mason drilled the spot-kick into the top corner to give Lloyd Cleal no chance and move him into double figures for the season.

The Swallows were almost level soon after but top-scorer Gavin Fowler squandered a one-on-one opportunity and James Beddows had a goal-bound header well saved.

The second-half was only five minutes old when Uplyme had their equaliser. Midfielder Stuart King crossed and Fowler converted for his 16th of the season.

Fowler went close to adding a second with a fine lob that beat the hosts' 'keeper but clipped the inside of the post and rolled agonisingly along the goal line before being hacked clear.

Coombe then swapped winger Adam Neale for Ryan Prendeville and the teenage substitute had an immediate impact putting his side ahead with a composed finish.

Any doubts of the visitors' place in the final were ended when Alex Cottle surged onto a loose ball before smashing home a 25-yard screamer.

Afterwards Coombe said: "It was a very poor surface but we ground out the result. I was really pleased with the way Ryan (Prendeville) came off the bench and put his mark on the match immediately."

KENNY HODGES CUP
Semi-final
Waytown Hounds 4
Chard United Reserves 0
WAYTOWN Hounds' hopes of a treble are still alive and well after they reached their second cup final of the season with a convincing 4-0 victory over Chard United Reserves at Netherbury.

It was goalless for half an hour but two goals in five minutes swung the game the way of the hosts. Danny Dunford got on the end of a long punt from 'keeper Bill Fleet to break the deadlock and Ed Stephenson poked home the second from close range.

Two goals from Tom Rutland, the second a 20-yard scorcher, rounded off the scoring and took the midfielder's tally for the season up to 11.

PREMIER DIVISION
South Petherton 1 Lyme Regis 1
TITLE rivals South Petherton and Lyme Regis clashed at Lightgate Lane in a match sure to have a bearing on the outcome of the league title.

Pethy went into the game looking to extend their remarkable 100 per cent league record and for 45 minutes it looked as though they would.

Lyme crafted the first real opening in the 18th minute when Adam Caddy jinked his way to the byline before crossing to Joel Gostling who saw his header well saved by Jardine Mackenzie.

But the half belonged to Pethy and Jon Hayter in particular who pulled the strings in the midfield battleground.

Fittingly it was Hayter who opened the scoring. Danny Rendall surged through unchallenged into the Seasiders' "D" before being upended by a desperate last-ditch tackle by Caddy. Hayter stepped up and clipped the free-kick into the bottom corner and the hosts had control.

But their superiority failed to produce the vital second goal and they were made to pay.

Seconds after the restart Rich Hebditch rounded Ashley Caddy in the Lyme goal but his shot was headed off the line by Matt Laing. But from there onwards it was the visitors who held sway.

Rob Thomson picked up a short corner and drilled a cross-shot which centre-back Steve Bowker sliced just over his own crossbar.

But the equaliser was just seconds away. Joe Bond did well to link with Gostling who side-stepped a couple of defenders before coolly picking his spot and stroking the ball past Mackenzie.

Pethy, in a rare attack, went close to snatching a win 10 minutes from time when a howler from Ash Caddy resulted in the ball rebounding back towards the empty net only to graze the outside of an upright.

The Lyme glovesman atoned himself soon after with an acrobatic stop to deny Lee Richards.

Lyme had what appeared to be a very good penalty shout when Adam Caddy was pushed in the area. But referee Richard Allen disagreed and waived away the appeals.

RESULTS

ARTHUR GAGE CUP, Semi-finals
Thorncombe 0 Netherbury 1

TOMMY TABBERER CUP, Semi-finals
Chard Rangers 1 Uplyme 3, Shepton Beauchamp 6 Hawkchurch Utd 2

KENNY HODGES CUP, Semi-finals
Waytown Hounds 4 Chard Utd Res 0

PREMIER DIVISION
Combe Res 2 Farway United 2, Ilminster Res 0 Merriott Rovers 1, Misterton 2 Beaminster 5, Perry Street 4 Barrington 1, South Petherton 1 Lyme Regis 1

DIVISION ONE
Crewkerne Town 8 Norton Athletic 0, Forton Rangers 3 Winsham United 2, Ilminster Colts 0 Millwey Rise 4, Lyme Regis Res 4 Charmouth 0

DIVISION TWO
Crewkerne Rangers 0 Dowlish & Donyatt 6, Hinton 4 South Petherton Res 4

DIVISION THREE
Combe A 0 Crewkerne Res 4, Drimpton 2 Lyme Regis Bantams 1, Farway Utd Res 3 Winsham Utd Res 3, Millwey Rise Res 2 Luso-Chard 2

DIVISION FOUR
Barrington Res 2 Combe B 2, W&M Chinnock Res 12 Hawkchurch Res 1

FIXTURES

DAISY HUTCHINGS CUP
Beaminster Reserves v Farway Res, Combe A v Misterton Reserves, Pymore v Crewkerne Reserves, Shepton Beauchamp v Dowlish & Donyatt

PREMIER DIVISION
Farway United v Ilminster Reserves, Lyme Regis v Beaminster

DIVISION ONE
Forton Rangers v Charmouth, Millwey Rise v Norton Athletic, Netherbury v Crewkerne Town, Perry Street Reserves v Winsham

DIVISION TWO
Hawkchurch v Hinton St George, Uplyme v South Petherton Reserves

DIVISON THREE
Winsham Reserves v Luso-Chard

DIVISION FOUR
Chard Rangers Reserves v West & Middle Chinnock Res, Chard Utd Reserves v Hawkchurch Reserves, Ilminster Town A v Shepton Reserves, Misterton v West & Middle Chinnock, South Petherton v Combe Reserves, Thorncombe Reserves v Waytown Hounds

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RUGBY PREVIEW

Big weekend ahead for Chard

By **Keith Jenkin**

SATURDAY, March 26th could be a rather important day in the season of the CHARD club who dismantled visitors, St Bernadettes Old Boys, by over 100 points on Saturday last.

While they play at home against GORDANO, a side from the Somerset Premier Division's mid table, and one whom they should beat, and beat with a bonus point for scoring four tries thrown in, their main rivals HORNETS have a bit of a banana skin in prospect. The Weston-super-Mare side entertain Minehead Barbarians, a side which has given them problems earlier in the season. (I seem to remember that the sides tied 23 points apiece in North Somerset.)

If the league leaders are to slip up and let Chard snatch the title, then I think Saturday is the likeliest day that they will do so. Of course the Dening Field brigade can do absolutely nothing about the result and should not let thoughts of it get in the way of their win. They could be pardoned however for casting anxious eyes at the RFU web site early on Saturday evening and hoping that Hornets have slipped on that particular banana skin.

It is difficult to keep the smirk of self satisfaction from my face when discussing CREWKERNE. Having predicted that they might just come out on top against visitors Somerton, a side who had bested them comfortably enough earlier in the season, I trotted off to Henhayes and watched them do so and, moreover, win with quite a bit to spare.

I must say that their hard work on the training paddock is bearing fruit. Their eight held a very discernable edge in the tight, and they offloaded well and made the ball available all game. They, like Chard, should have a fairly comfortable win. They take on TAUNTON thirds at Henhayes, having already beaten them by over 30 points on their own ground earlier in the season.

The Taunton second and third sides have fallen away a little this season, a statistic that is a little surprising, and the reason for it unknown. Another win would do Crewkerne's cause no harm at all and go some way to rectifying that galling defeat incurred at the hands of the Chard second side a couple of weeks ago.

As to the second sides, Chard seconds should certainly win at Yeovil where they take on their Ivel Barbarians counterparts. The home side have had a season that they would wish to forget and their league campaign has been littered with heavy defeats and concessions.

They occupy a relegation place at the moment and I do not think they will begin any resurgence on Saturday next, home advantage notwithstanding.

Chard thirds will, in all probability, be looking to put the record straight. They take on Castle Cary seconds at the Crewkerne Road ground, a side who narrowly beat them back in the autumn. I think they might just do so.

■ **FIXTURES March 26th 2011:** Chard v Gordano (home); Chard 2nd v Ivel Barbarians 2nd (away); Chard 3rd v Castle Cary 2nd (home); Crewkerne v Taunton 3rd (home).

Chard Bowls

INDOORS v OUTDOORS

ON SUNDAY, March 20th, 14 short mat bowlers played in a 'challenge' match against 12 lawn green bowlers to see who would reign supreme on this occasion in the short mat hall.

To date the short mat bowlers had beaten the lawn green bowlers on two previous occasions. However, the table were turned and the outdoor players won by 53 shots to the indoors players' 48 shots.

Play was followed by a delicious afternoon tea, supplied by players. The unlucky indoor players were also unlucky in the raffle with the top prizes going to outdoors. Players were reminded that next Saturday (March 26th) would be a fun afternoon and presentation.

The lawn green bowlers were reminded that the 'Opening of the Green' would take place on Saturday, April 16th.

SHORT MAT - MILFORD & DORMOR AFTERNOON TRIPLES LEAGUE

ON MONDAY, March 14th, Westway met the Magpies and much to Westway's chagrin they lost by six shots to the Magpies' 18.

Three days later Westway played again - this time against the Greyhounds who are currently second in the league. Westway won their game by 15 shots to the Greyhounds' 14 shots.

The Hurricanes played against the Magpies. The Hurricanes, after storming away, lost some momentum and the Magpies started to come back. The Hurricanes eventually won by 17 shots to the Magpies' 12 shots.

Wincanton Racecourse

THIS Sunday (March 27th) sees Wincanton Racecourse host their popular Family Day which for the first time will include an equine parade of regional Cheltenham Festival greats.

Gates open at midday with Wincanton hosting their free children's tour of the racecourse which includes a weighing room visit and a course walk before racing gets under way at 2:25pm. There will also be a running race, a question and answer session with top jockeys and 250 goody bags. Children must pre-register for this complimentary opportunity on 01963 32344.

The Kingwell Restaurant will also provide free lunch for children accompanied by an adult, with 'Winnie Lunchbox Meals' for sale at other outlets.

Windwhistle Golf

Men's Section - Weekly Round-Up

A flag competition was held on Sunday, March 13th. This was a strokeplay event enabling anyone who shot under their handicap after 18 holes to use their remaining strokes to play off the first tee again.

The winner was the player who played furthest around the course whilst using up their remaining strokes.

The clear winner of Division One with a net 63 was M. Plumridge; second, third and fourth respectively were M. Wilks, P. Manly and N. Taylor who all scored a net 67, only separated by count back.

The winner of Division Two was T. Combs with a net 62. P. Hamilton-Walsh finished second with 66; third and fourth place went to T. Wise and D. Slocombe who carded 68.

A medal competition was played over five days from Monday 14th to Friday, March 18th. Over 40 competitors played in the stroke play event. A winning score of 64 by P. Davies was four shots clear of R. Davies who was second and carded a 68. D. Dowell finished third with a score of 69.

FOOTBALL

In-form Chocolate Men put four past Robins

By **Howard Larcombe**

CHARD Town suffered a heavy defeat on Tuesday night, losing 4-0 at home to Cadbury Heath in front of a crowd of 110. The result sees the side drop one place to 14th in the Toolstation Western League first division table.

The Robins were without a game on Saturday and are also left fixtureless tomorrow (Saturday, March 26th).

TOOLSTATION DIV 1 (bottom)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Calne Town	27	11	5	11	57	40	34
Shepton Mallet	31	10	2	19	42	71	32
CHARD TOWN	**32**	**7**	**8**	**17**	**45**	**65**	**29**
Keynsham Town	28	7	7	14	35	48	28
Portishead Town	31	6	10	15	42	66	28
Westbury United	29	7	2	20	34	67	23
Roman Glass St George	27	5	5	17	28	65	20
Elmore	28	5	1	22	38	102	16

CHARD Town Reserves gave Exmouth Amateurs 2nd an 11-0 thumping at the weekend, keeping them in third spot in the Devon & Exeter League third division. Exmouth play hosts in the reverse fixture tomorrow (March 26th).

D & E LEAGUE DIVISION 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pinhoe	18	13	3	2	74	23	42
Topsham Town Reserves	18	13	3	2	72	48	42
CHARD TOWN RESERVES	**16**	**12**	**2**	**2**	**51**	**35**	**38**
Sandford	15	11	2	2	57	32	35
Upottery	21	10	4	7	43	30	34
Dawlish United	20	10	3	7	49	28	33
Offwell Rangers*	18	10	1	7	43	33	30
South Zeal United*	19	9	3	7	38	35	29
Winkleigh	19	8	2	9	48	48	26
Lympstone	22	7	4	11	38	53	25
Crescent	19	5	2	12	35	64	17
Countess Wear Dynamoes	19	4	2	13	35	59	14
Dawlish Town*	16	4	3	9	33	50	12
Bampton	16	3	2	11	14	41	11
Exmouth Amateurs 2nds*	20	1	0	19	12	113	2

ILMINSTER TOWN

THE Blues' chances of promotion have not been helped with back-to-back defeats at Weston St Johns on Saturday and Portishead Town Reserves on Tuesday night.

Ilminster were 1-0 down at half-time in their weekend match, but came back strongly after the break. They looked likely to get at least a point after their second half equaliser, but Weston sealed it with a screamer of a goal some 15 minutes before the end.

After their midweek defeat to Portishead, Ilminster will be looking to bounce back in their match at home to Fry Club tomorrow (March 26th).

SOMERSET DIVISION 1	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Weston St Johns	24	15	4	5	32	49
Berrow	21	15	3	3	27	48
Odd Down Reserves	25	15	3	7	16	48
Nailsea Town	20	12	5	3	27	41
Bishop Sutton Reserves	24	11	7	6	28	40
ILMINSTER TOWN	**21**	**12**	**3**	**6**	**10**	**39**
Frome Collegians	22	11	5	6	14	38
Purnells	21	7	8	6	0	29
Fry Club	21	7	7	7	2	28
Cleeve West Town*	24	8	7	9	-1	27
Saltford	24	7	6	11	-8	27
Burnham United	22	5	10	7	7	25
Portishead Town Reserves	24	7	2	15	-32	23
Larkhall Athletic Reserves	20	5	7	8	2	22
Nailsea United Reserves	19	5	5	9	-4	20
Keynsham Town Reserves	22	5	3	14	-28	18
Street Reserves*	23	5	3	15	-33	17
Timsbury Athletic	23	1	6	16	-59	9

COMBE ST NICHOLAS

COMBE were without a game last weekend but are back in action tomorrow, away to Congresbury. They're still in fourth place in the Somerset County League Division Two (West) and pushing for a strong finish.

SOMERSET DIVISION 2 WEST	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Congresbury	18	15	2	1	34	47
Yatton Athletic	21	14	3	4	38	45
Ashton & Backwell Utd Reserves*	22	13	2	7	20	40
Combe St Nicholas	20	11	5	4	7	38
Westland United	21	11	4	6	5	37
Churchill Club 70	19	8	5	6	7	29
Wells City Reserves	21	8	5	8	0	29
Cheddar Reserves	19	6	5	8	-7	23
Long Ashton*	20	6	3	11	-6	20
Banwell	18	6	2	10	-18	20
Creech St Michael*	19	7	2	10	4	19
Burnham United Reserves	20	4	6	10	-23	18
Worle	21	2	5	14	-33	11
Wrington Redhill	19	2	3	14	-28	9

sportsdigest

Ilminster skittles

RESULTS - Division One: Crown Faces 313-9 (S.Whaites 44), Flying Turkeys 295-3 (D.Manley 45); Ashill Inn 300-0, (L.Mills 41), Cricketers 368-12 (N.Matravers 56); Carnival Clingons 376 -11(K.Channon 57), Rocky's Rollers 335-1 (Andy Rockett 49); Hatch Beagles - bye; Last Week - Rocky's Rollers 302-2 (I.Findlay 44) Royals 316-10 (C.Gabe 47).

DIVISION ONE	P	W	D	L	Pts
Ashill Inn	15	9	0	6	105
Carnival Clingons	15	10	0	5	101
Hatch Beagles	15	8	0	7	97
Crown Faces	15	8	0	7	95
Royals	15	8	0	7	93
Cricketers	15	7	0	8	83
Flying Turkeys	15	6	0	9	73
Kings Head	14	6	0	8	72
Rocky's Rollers	15	5	0	10	72

Division Two: Bellclangers 346-3 (B.Richards 48), Bell A 368-9 (S.Hooper 53); Ashill Boys - Bye; Last Week - Royal Oak 360-3 (L.Prouse 56), Wyndham Arms 374 -9 (A.Carnell 60).

DIVISION TWO	P	W	D	L	Pts
Nomads (CHAMPIONS)	14	11	0	3	125
Donyatt BC	14	9	0	5	104
Royal Oak	13	9	0	4	102
Bell Broadway	13	8	1	4	91
Wyndham Arms	13	7	1	5	91
Bell A	14	6	0	8	80
Ashill Boys	14	7	0	7	78
Bell Clangers	14	4	0	10	53
Hatch Eggs	15	0	0	15	26

Crewkerne skittles

Division One	Pld	Pts
Lost Boys	18	175
Headhunters	18	146
Muddled men	18	142
Super Sexy Six	18	135
King Willy Dogs	18	127
The Fryers	18	118
Coachmen	18	107
Disney	18	89
Rollers	18	76
Royal Oak Drimpton	18	68
Sports 92	18	64
Swann Fokkers	18	43

Division Two	Pld	Pts
Football Club	18	135
Pinbusters	18	133
Rug Rats	18	132
Nomads	18	128
Brewers Bees	18	112
Skimmers	18	112
Concorde	18	103
Coombe Boys	18	97
Loud & Proud	18	91
Swab Cobs	18	85
Willy Low Flyers	18	84
Kings Head B	18	84

Division Three	Pld	Pts
Numpties	18	137
Perrott Monkeys	18	135
Swan Fixers	18	128
Royal Oak A	18	125
Con Club Legends	18	117
Motley Crew	18	114
Chis Colts	18	110
Sandbaggers	18	107
Contwistadors	18	100
Hung Like Horses	18	100
Dinnington Astros	17	58
Muppets	17	41

England debut for Louis

ILMINSTER bowler Louis Ridout received a late call up to the England senior international team to play in the British Isles championships in Stanley.

Louis who had his first England senior trial this year, and who was not originally selected for the team, was called by England team manager Tony Horbin on Wednesday asking him to attend. Louis then travelled to Newcastle to be told he was straight in the team for his England debut.

Louis was put in at lead for 2010 world champion Greg Harlow with James Webber from Torquay and Rob Chisholm from Stanley making up the rink. Louis and his rink kicked off the campaign on Thursday to retain the trophy against Wales. They were in control from the start, and Louis played some super bowls to win the rink 22-14 on his first appearance. England won on four rinks and lost on two but did enough to win 127-105.

England took on Ireland on Friday, with England hoping to build on a good win against Wales. Louis and his rink were again in confident mood and bowled well again to win their rink 18-16. But most of the damage was done by the Jamie Chestney rink that ripped Ireland apart winning his rink 43-9. England recorded another victory by 30 shots 134-104.

England took on Scotland in the final match of the competition. With Scotland unbeaten as well, the winner would be lifting the trophy. The match was very close from the start with Scotland taking an early lead, but England fought back and took a lead at 12 ends. Louis was on top form for the final match and showed his quality and his rink to an early and impressive lead, and never looked like letting it go going on to win 25-17. England went on to win the match 116-107 and retain the trophy.

Louis said: "This has been one of the best experiences in my bowls career; I could have never imagined playing with and against such quality players and representing my country on the biggest stage of them all. To win all three games in my debut year and win the title for England is a special moment and I hope I have many more to come."

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Glovers In Focus

By Stuart Broom

ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

YEOVIL Town are to embark in a joint venture with West Country businessman Chris Dawson, owner of CDS who also owns The Range, a home, leisure and garden empire with stores nationwide.

The idea is that a new development for retail usage will be built at the north end of the club on land currently housing the club's two training pitches, and the money the club earn from the sale will be used to build a new stand at the Copse Road End with a capacity of 3,500.

The deal is of course subject to linked to a successful planning application to build the leisure park and the stadium.

The retail park which could include one of Mr Dawson's The Range stores it's claimed will create 300 new jobs for Yeovil, whilst the new stadium would increase the ground capacity to around 11,500.

Talking at a press conference on Wednesday Yeovil Town Football Club Chairman John Fry said the success of the venture was vital for the success of the club.

The news broke on Monday when Mr Dawson confirmed that he was in talks with the football club and that it was purely a business transaction as he was not interested in football, nor does he have any desire to get involved with the running of the football club itself.

Bottom of the table	*P*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*F*	*A*	*GD*	*Pts*
Exeter City	*37*	*13*	*10*	*14*	*53*	*61*	*-8*	*49*
Oldham Athletic	*38*	*11*	*13*	*14*	*46*	*54*	*-8*	*46*
Sheffield Wednesday	*36*	*12*	*7*	*17*	*51*	*55*	*-4*	*43*
Notts County	*35*	*12*	*6*	*17*	*37*	*41*	*-4*	*42*
Tranmere Rovers	*36*	*11*	*9*	*16*	*41*	*49*	*-8*	*42*
YEOVIL TOWN	***36***	***11***	***8***	***17***	***36***	***53***	***-17***	***41***
Dagenham & Redbridge	*35*	*10*	*10*	*15*	*40*	*49*	*-9*	*40*
Walsall	*38*	*10*	*9*	*19*	*46*	*62*	*-16*	*39*
Bristol Rovers	*37*	*9*	*9*	*19*	*39*	*70*	*-31*	*36*
Swindon Town	*37*	*7*	*13*	*17*	*43*	*60*	*-17*	*34*
Plymouth Argyle	*38*	*12*	*7*	*19*	*44*	*62*	*-18*	*33*

*(*10pts deducted)*

In an interview with Radio Somerset the former market trader said: "The club should make a lot of money. It's very very early days yet. There's a long way to go. We've got to go through planning, consultancies and so on and so forth. But I get along very well with the football club and for me it stacks up and the figures stack up and that's the only way that I can ever go forward on any development. Those guys up there seem to have a very good vision of what they want to do with the money."

Mr Fry who has been chairman for 16 years said that it had been an idea of his to develop the club for around five years but had not found the right operator to work with.

He was aware that the club was "run down" in several areas and that they needed to be addressed and the ground brought up to Football League status to allow it not only to move forward but continue trading, and that he was looking for the support of the people of Yeovil as well as the local councils and planners.

He was aware that there are several hurdles to jump yet and appreciated that it will not suit everyone and that some people will object. But he hoped that the club's professional planning team could sit down with those people to find a way forward.

"We have a very good site here but it needs redevelopment and regeneration in many areas. The money we get will go towards the improvement of the infrastructure such as the stand, but also new training pitches; the current ones to be developed are not up to League One standard, the Astroturf pitch, the sports bars and the car park area which is unsurfaced."

He hoped that plans would be submitted in the next few weeks, and that in keeping with manager Terry Skiverton's boat theme, with a fair wind would take about five years to complete.

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Free for local sports clubs - email howard@pemedia.co.uk

Youth league wants new sides

■ **YOUTH FOOTBALL:** THIS season the Yaskin's East Devon Youth League celebrated its 50th anniversary having been founded in 1960.

The league lay dormant for some years but was resurrected in 1983 and has been going strong ever since.

It's a Sunday league and structured to run teams in all age groups from Under 7s up to Under 17s with games played in the mornings or afternoons as preferred by the individual clubs.

The league offers mini-soccer, 9-a-side and 11v11 depending on age. They have teams from the Exeter, East Devon, Mid Devon, West Dorset and South Somerset areas.

In season 2010/11 Yaskin Sports, who are based in Clevedon and stock and distribute a wide range of innovative high quality sportswear, approached the league with an offer of sponsorship which is now in place and will continue next season. Good discounts are offered to member clubs.

Over the past couple of seasons the number of teams playing has dropped and this season only U10, U11, U12 and U16 leagues are being run.

Organisers consider that it is important to continue to provide youth football on a Sunday to cater for those clubs who can only play then and also to make the best use of the facilities available, some of which are under threat of closure due to local authority cutbacks.

It also provides an opportunity for teams with large squads to give players who might not be getting a regular game on a Saturday a chance to play.

To maintain the viability of the league organisers have decided to try to attract new teams, or teams who aren't currently playing on a Sunday, to join them next season. Maybe you might like to resurrect a team that has played in the league in the past?

The quality of football in the league is of a good standard and the U12 representative team has recently beaten the Plymouth Youth League in the inter-league competition in which the league participates. Three of the cup finals are played at Exeter's James' Park which is a great thrill for the players concerned.

Unlike some leagues most games in the older age groups have officially appointed qualified referees.

The league is financially sound, particularly with the sponsorship deal, so to attract new entries the league has decided to waive the normal annual subscription and registration fees for new and existing teams next season and offer them free membership.

If you are interested please contact the league secretary, Mike Baker, on 01395 515983, email mikebaker@homecall.co.uk or the chairman, Dudley Frood, on 01404 850509 for an informal chat.

STANCHESTER LADS AT WEMBLEY CUP FINAL

LAST month 15 boys from Stanchester Community School were selected to represent the School and the Football League as ball boys at the Carling Cup Final.

Mr Reynaulds, Head of PE, said: "The boys did themselves, the school and the Football League proud, fulfilling their duties in an exemplary manner within a high pressure situation.

"So high in fact that Arsene Wenger shouted at one of the boys to hurry up with the ball in the 92nd minute to which Scott Jenkins' response was to-calmly pass the ball to the waiting Arsenal player and when Dominic Scammells was covered in a pint of lager from an understandably over enthusiastic Birmingham fan he just laughed."

■ **PICTURED below are cup final ball boys: (back row) Dominic May, Tom Sutton, Luke Welch, William Spurway, Joe Young, Mathew Hayward, Dominic Scammels, Sam Agar, Jack Reaburn and (front row) Will Carlisle, Will Lander, Rob Wood, Scott Jenkins, Sam Chislett, Peter Fleming and Arran Humphries**

ON THE SPOT...

WEEKENDER SPORT* puts Ilminster Town defender Rob Webb *UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

Q How long have you been involved in local football? Who have you played for?

A I have been playing football for about 20 years since I was eight. The clubs I've played for since I was 16 are: Chard Town Colts (98-03), Perry Street (03-06), Ilminster Town 1st in Errea Somerset County league (09 to present).

Q Name the three best players you've played alongside and why.

A I've played with some people of a good standard because I had a handful of games for Chard Town first team. The best players I've regularly played with are probably some of my present team mates, **Jonny Manley, Mike McCormack** and **Chris Nezianya**.

Q What's the best away ground you've played at?

A A tournament I played in for Chard Under 14s in Morangis, France was probably the best ground I've played at. Locally, I think the best ground -pitchwise - is Barrington, but not on a windy day!

Q How would you improve things at the club?

A Floodlights would help the fixture backlog. The changing rooms need DIY SOS to come in. I wouldn't change the clubhouse (known as 'The Shed') - it's part and parcel of the 'Ilminster Experience'.

Q Do any games stick out in your memory?

A I think the games that stick out most are those where you do everything right. I don't have many of those but one was for Perry Street against Uplyme in a Division One Cup Final held at Chard Town. We won 3-0 and I scored a bullet half-volley from the edge of the box. I'm not one to boast but...!

Q Name some young local players we should look out for in the future.

A Someone who's impressed me in training is **Brad Miles** - a 16-year-old striker who looks pretty sharp playing for Ilminster Reserves. The first two lads mentioned in Q2 above (**Jonny Manley** and **Mike McCormack**) are only in their early 20s too. Other than that, Jude Webb is a great prospect. He's not two yet but if he's anything like his dad... he'll be playing rugby!

NEXT WEEK: Chard Rangers' Luke Chubb.

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